

identified in the school address would be used. However, the school file provided nearly universal geocode coverage, making supplemental ZIP locale assignments unnecessary.

*ZIP code assignment.* ZIP code locale assignments would have been based on Census Bureau ZCTAs, geographic entities developed by the Census Bureau and designed to approximate USPS five-digit ZIP Code service areas. ZCTAs are aggregations of census blocks that have the same predominant ZIP code associated with the residential mailing addresses in the U.S. Census Bureau's Master Address File. ZCTAs do not precisely depict ZIP code delivery areas and do not include all ZIP codes used for mail delivery. Some ZCTAs cover remote or non-residential areas such as water bodies, wilderness areas, and military installations that fall outside the scope of the ZIP codes reported by CCD schools. ZCTA codes for water bodies are indicated with the suffix 'HH' in the fourth and fifth digits, while codes for non-hydrographic uncovered areas are suffixed with 'XX.' Additionally, ZIP code boundaries are not static. Therefore locale assignments based on TIGER/Line 2004 current ZCTAs may not reflect the same geographic area presently served by the ZIP code.

ZIP code locale assignments relied on the following decision rules. First, the population in each locale subtype was identified for each ZCTA. Second, the ZCTA was examined to see if a single locale subtype accounted for 50 percent or more of the population within the ZCTA. If so, the ZCTA was assigned that majority locale subtype. If the ZCTA lacked a majority locale subtype, the locale subtypes were aggregated into their respective locales (City, Suburb, Town, Rural), and the locales were checked for a 50 percent majority population. If a majority locale was identified, then the ZCTA was assigned the locale subtype that had the plurality within the majority locale. If, however, none of the aggregate locales satisfied the 50 percent majority population criterion, then the ZCTA locale assignment defaulted to the single locale subtype with the largest population percentage within the ZCTA. Most ZCTA assignments (96 percent) were based on the presence of a 50 percent majority locale subtype.

### **Definitions of terms**

The following terms are concepts used in assigning school locale codes.

*Core Based Statistical Areas.* Core Based Statistical Areas (CBSA) are defined by OMB and represent county or counties associated with at least one core of 10,000 or greater population, plus adjacent counties having a high degree of social and economic integration with the core(s) as measured by commuting ties. CBSAs with a population core of 50,000 or more are identified as metropolitan statistical areas (metros), and those with population cores of 10,000 to 50,000 are identified as micropolitan statistical areas (micros). Unlike urbanized areas and urban clusters that are primarily designed to reflect urban structure, metro and micro areas are primarily designed to reflect the functional relationship between urban cores and the areas surrounding them. This includes relationships between urban cores, as well as relationships between urban cores and surrounding rural areas. Since Urbanized Areas (UAs) and Urban Clusters (UCs) are constructed from census blocks and block groups and are designed to reflect the structural effects of urbanization, and CBSAs are a separate concept constructed from

counties and designed to reflect functional spatial relationships at a larger scale, it is reasonable to find urban and rural territory both inside and outside CBSAs.

*Place.* Census places are considered to be concentrations of population that are legally bounded and incorporated. Most towns and cities fall into this category. However, many areas that look like towns and cities with commonly recognized community names are not legally incorporated. To accommodate these place-equivalent areas, the Census Bureau identifies them as census designated places or CDPs. For most common analytic and data production purposes, places and CDPs are treated as equivalents. This was not the case prior to the 1990 census. Unless noted otherwise, any mention of place in the remainder of this discussion includes both incorporated places and Census designated places.

*Principal City.* Principal cities include the largest place (incorporated or unincorporated) and other relatively large places that serve as the primary population and employment centers within a CBSA. Principal cities replaced the older central city term defined by OMB's 1990 metropolitan area standards, recognizing that many central cities have become much less central (functionally and structurally) within increasingly polynucleated urban areas. Although principal cities are present in both metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas, CCD City locale classifications are currently limited to principal cities of metropolitan statistical areas only.

*Rural.* The Census Bureau classifies all population and territory not included in an urbanized area or urban cluster as rural.

*Urban (urbanized areas and urban clusters).* The Census Bureau defines an urban area as a densely settled core of census block groups and census blocks that meet minimum population density requirements, along with adjacent densely settled surrounding census blocks. When a core area contains a population of 50,000 or more, it is classified as an urbanized area (UA). Core areas with population between 2,500 and 50,000 are classified as urban clusters (UC).

## **B. User Guidelines for Processing the Public Elementary/Secondary School Locale Code File**

CCD data file names include a two-digit version number. The 2003-04 Public Elementary/Secondary School Locale Code SAS file is called SL031A.SD2. The flat ASCII file is called SL031A.DAT. The first two characters of the file name indicate the type of file (SL = School Locale), the third and fourth characters indicate the file year (03 = 2003-04 CCD collection), and the fifth and sixth characters indicate the version number (1 = final file, A = first version). Appendix A contains the record layout for the file.

List of state FIPS codes and abbreviations used in CCD datasets

STATE NAME	FIPS <sup>1</sup>	STABBREV <sup>2</sup>	STATE NAME	FIPS <sup>1</sup>	STABBREV <sup>2</sup>
Alabama	01	AL	Oklahoma	40	OK
Alaska	02	AK	Oregon	41	OR
Arizona	04	AZ	Pennsylvania	42	PA
Arkansas	05	AR	Rhode Island	44	RI
California	06	CA	South Carolina	45	SC
Colorado	08	CO	South Dakota	46	SD
Connecticut	09	CT	Tennessee	47	TN
Delaware	10	DE	Texas	48	TX
District of Columbia	11	DC	Utah	49	UT
Florida	12	FL	Vermont	50	VT
Georgia	13	GA	Virginia	51	VA
Hawaii	15	HI	Washington	53	WA
Idaho	16	ID	West Virginia	54	WV
Illinois	17	IL	Wisconsin	55	WI
Indiana	18	IN	Wyoming	56	WY
Iowa	19	IA			
Kansas	20	KS	OTHER JURISDICTIONS		
Kentucky	21	KY	Department of Defense		
Louisiana	22	LA	Dependents Schools		
Maine	23	ME	(overseas)	58 <sup>3</sup>	DO
Maryland	24	MD			
Massachusetts	25	MA			
Michigan	26	MI	Department of Defense		
Minnesota	27	MN	Dependents Schools		
Mississippi	28	MS	(domestic)	61 <sup>3</sup>	DD
Missouri	29	MO			
Montana	30	MT	Bureau of		
Nebraska	31	NE	Indian Affairs	59 <sup>3</sup>	BI
Nevada	32	NV			
New Hampshire	33	NH			
New Jersey	34	NJ	American Samoa	60	AS
New Mexico	35	NM	Guam	66	GU
New York	36	NY	Northern Marianas	69	MP
North Carolina	37	NC	Puerto Rico	72	PR
North Dakota	38	ND	Virgin Islands	78	VI
Ohio	39	OH			

<sup>1</sup> Federal Information Processing STD Codes (01-78).

<sup>2</sup> Postal State Abbreviation Codes.

<sup>3</sup> Not official U.S. FIPS code. The state abbreviations for Department of Defense (overseas) schools are AA, AE, and AP to indicate schools located in Asia, Europe, and the Pacific, respectively. For Department of Defense (domestic) schools and Bureau of Indian Affairs schools, state abbreviations correspond to the state in which the school resides.

## Appendix A—Record Layout

Common Core of Data Public Elementary/Secondary School Locale Code File:  
School Year 2003-04, version 1a

(\*) Fields have one explicit decimal place

The file contains data for the school year 2003-04 sorted by the NCES assigned school identification code (NCESSCH).

Variable Name	Start Position	End Position	Field Length	Data Type	Description
NCESSCH	01	12	12	AN	ID assigned by NCES to each school.
LATCOD	13	21	9*	AN	Latitude
LONCOD	22	31	10*	AN	Longitude
MLOCALE	32	32	1	AN	<p>Metro-centric locale code:</p> <p>1 = <u>Large City</u>: A principal city of a Metropolitan Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA), with the city having a population greater than or equal to 250,000.</p> <p>2 = <u>Mid-Size City</u>: A principal city of a Metropolitan CBSA, with the city having a population less than 250,000.</p> <p>3 = <u>Urban Fringe of a Large City</u>: Any incorporated place, Census-designated place, or non-place territory within a Metropolitan CBSA of a Large City and defined as urban by the Census Bureau.</p> <p>4 = <u>Urban Fringe of a Mid-Size City</u>: Any incorporated place, Census-designated place, or non-place territory within a CBSA of a Mid-Size City and defined as urban by the Census Bureau.</p> <p>5 = <u>Large Town</u>: An incorporated place or Census-designated place with a population greater than or equal to 25,000 and located outside a Metropolitan CBSA or inside a Micropolitan CBSA.</p> <p>6 = <u>Small Town</u>: An incorporated place or Census-designated place with a population less than 25,000 and greater than or equal to 2,500 and located outside a Metropolitan CBSA or inside a Micropolitan CBSA.</p> <p>7 = <u>Rural, outside CBSA</u>: Any incorporated place, Census-designated place, or non-place territory not within a Metropolitan CBSA or within a Micropolitan CBSA and defined as rural by the Census Bureau.</p> <p>8 = <u>Rural, inside CBSA</u>: Any incorporated place, Census-designated place, or non-place territory within a Metropolitan CBSA and defined as rural by the Census Bureau.</p>

## Appendix A—Record Layout

Common Core of Data Public Elementary/Secondary School Locale Code File:  
School Year 2003-04, version 1a

Variable Name	Start Position	End Position	Field Length	Data Type	Description
ULOCAL	33	34	2	AN	Urban-centric locale code:
					<p>11 = <u>City: Large</u>: Territory inside an urbanized area and inside a principal city with population of 250,000 or more.</p> <p>12 = <u>City: Midsize</u>: Territory inside an urbanized area and inside a principal city with population less than 250,000 and greater than or equal to 100,000.</p> <p>13 = <u>City: Small</u>: Territory inside an urbanized area and inside a principal city with population less than 100,000.</p> <p>21 = <u>Suburb: Large</u>: Territory outside a principal city and inside an urbanized area with population of 250,000 or more.</p> <p>22 = <u>Suburb: Midsize</u>: Territory outside a principal city and inside an urbanized area with population less than 250,000 and greater than or equal to 100,000.</p> <p>23 = <u>Suburb: Small</u>: Territory outside a principal city and inside an urbanized area with population less than 100,000.</p> <p>31 = <u>Town: Fringe</u>: Territory inside an urban cluster that is less than or equal to 10 miles from an urbanized area.</p> <p>32 = <u>Town: Distant</u>: Territory inside an urban cluster that is more than 10 miles and less than or equal to 35 miles from an urbanized area.</p> <p>33 = <u>Town: Remote</u>: Territory inside an urban cluster that is more than 35 miles of an urbanized area.</p> <p>41 = <u>Rural: Fringe</u>: Census-defined rural territory that is less than or equal to 5 miles from an urbanized area, as well as rural territory that is less than or equal to 2.5 miles from an urban cluster.</p> <p>42 = <u>Rural: Distant</u>: Census-defined rural territory that is more than 5 miles but less than or equal to 25 miles from an urbanized area, as well as rural territory that is more than 2.5 miles but less than or equal to 10 miles from an urban cluster.</p> <p>43 = <u>Rural: Remote</u>: Census-defined rural territory that is more than 25 miles from an urbanized area and is also more than 10 miles from an urban cluster.</p>

**Appendix B—Value Distribution and Field Frequencies**  
Common Core of Data Public Elementary/Secondary School Locale Code File:  
School Year 2003-04, version 1a

Variable	Label	M	N	Other
NCESSCH	Unique School ID (NCES Assigned)	0	0	100,593
LATCOD	Latitude (NCES Assigned)	0	0	100,593
LONCOD	Longitude (NCES Assigned)	0	0	100,593

**Appendix B—Value Distribution and Field Frequencies**  
Common Core of Data Public Elementary/Secondary School Locale Code File:  
School Year 2003-04, version 1a

MLOCALE - Metro-centric Locale

MLOCALE	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
1	12142	12.07	12142	12.07
2	13090	13.01	25232	25.08
3	21139	21.01	46371	46.10
4	10497	10.44	56868	56.53
5	1056	1.05	57924	57.58
6	8841	8.79	66765	66.37
7	17148	17.05	83913	83.42
8	12657	12.58	96570	96.00
N	4023	4.00	100593	100.00

ULOCAL - Urban-Centric Locale

ULOCAL	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
11	12734	12.66	12734	12.66
12	5647	5.61	18381	18.27
13	7595	7.55	25976	25.82
21	23233	23.10	49209	48.92
22	3075	3.06	52284	51.98
23	2032	2.02	54316	54.00
31	3962	3.94	58278	57.93
32	5942	5.91	64220	63.84
33	5199	5.17	69419	69.01
41	10645	10.58	80064	79.59
42	11330	11.26	91394	90.86
43	9055	9.00	100449	99.86
N	144	0.14	100593	100.00

## Susan Farr

---

From: Phan, Tai [Tai.Phan@ed.gov]  
Sent: Thursday, January 22, 2009 2:54 PM  
To: Susan Farr  
Subject: FW: FW: rural status for Falcon School District 49  
Attachments: CCD0607\_VERIFY\_090122.xls; Schools addresses DMS and elevation.xlsx

Susan,

Since I was not in my office when your email got to my mail box, I asked Census Bureau staff, Doug, to check for your request. The following is his response to your question.  
Sincerely,

Tai Phan

---

From: douglas.e.geverdt@census.gov [douglas.e.geverdt@census.gov]  
Sent: Thursday, January 22, 2009 4:24 PM  
To: Phan, Tai  
Subject: Re: FW: rural status for Falcon School District 49

Tai,

This is an interesting case. It's not a matter of location coordinates, but rather how school enrollment interacts with school location to determine school district locale assignment.

Falcon School District 49 was coded as Large City (locale value = 11) based on school and enrollment data reported in the Common Core of Data (CCD) 2006-2007 input file (the most recent year provided for locale assignments). The input file included 17 schools associated with the district, 9 of which were assigned to Rural locales. Although a majority of Falcon's schools were located in Rural areas (Rural Fringe and Rural Distant), these schools did not enroll a majority of the district's students. School district (LEA) locale assignments are based on enrollment weighted school assignments (not the absolute count of schools by locale), and those enrollment weighted assignments follow a three step classification process.

The first step checks to see if a majority of students in the district are enrolled in schools located in a SINGLE locale type. If so, the school district is assigned that locale type. For example, if more than 50% of Falcon's students had been enrolled in schools assigned as 41-Rural Fringe, then Falcon SD49 would have been assigned as 41-Rural Fringe. About 97% of all school districts in CCD receive locale assignments in this first step. However, if a majority of students are not enrolled in schools located in a SINGLE locale type, the process moves to the next step. The second step aggregates specific locale types into a general locale group (City, Suburb, Town, Rural), and then checks to see if one of the general locale groups accounts for a majority of enrollment. If so, then the district is assigned the specific locale type that accounts for the most students within the general locale. For example, if Falcon's enrollment in Rural Fringe (41), Rural Distant (42), and Rural Remote (43) schools was aggregated into a basic Rural category, and that Rural category accounted for 50% or more of Falcon's total enrollment, then Falcon would have been assigned as Rural (as a general category). A specific, single locale type (Rural Fringe, Rural Distant, or Rural Remote) would then be assigned depending on which of these categories accounted for the most students. About 2% of all districts in the CCD receive locale assignments as a result of this second step. In other words, 99% of all districts in the CCD receive locale assignments through these two basic steps.

If a specific locale type or a general locale category fails to account for a majority of students, the third step in the identification process assigns a locale to the district based



on a simple plurality, i.e., the district is assigned the locale type that accounts for the greatest number of students. Less than 1% of districts in the U.S. reach this stage in the assignment process, but Falcon SD 49 is part of that rare group. It did not have a single, specific locale type that accounted for 50% or more of its students (Step#1), and even when enrollment was aggregated into the general locale categories (Step#2) - it still lacked a general category that accounted for 50% or more of the enrollment. That pushed it into Step#3. At that point the single locale type that accounted for the most students was 11- Large City, so the district was assigned as 11 - Large City even though a substantial portion of the enrollment and a majority of schools were Rural. (Note that the Large City classification was heavily influenced by the large enrollment of Sand Creek High School, a Large City school that was almost twice as big as any other school in the district).

The district spreadsheet identifies two schools that were not included on the CCD 2006-2007 input file (Vista Ridge High School and Patriot Learning Center). A quick web check suggests that both Vista Ridge and Patriot LC didn't open until the 2008-2009 academic year, therefore they would be out of scope for the CCD 2006-2007 locale assignments. Second, the CCD 2006-2007 input file included three schools not included on the spreadsheet (Banning Lewis Ranch Academy, Rocky Mountain Classical Academy, and Pikes Peak School). Two of these schools (Banning and Pikes Peak) were assigned as Rural, the other was Suburban.

Again, this isn't an issue of differences in school coordinates or the absolute number of schools in a given locale type. District assignments involve an interaction between school location and school enrollment. The locale assigned to Falcon SD 49 is correct - in that it is the logical result of the same assignment algorithm applied to all CCD school districts. But it's also clear that Falcon is in a relatively rare set of school districts (less than 1%) that lack a truly dominant locale type.

Hope this helps to clarify the district assignment. Let me know if questions. - doug

doug gevertdt ::: u.s. census bureau ::: did-6h126a  
washington dc 20233-8100 ::: 301.763.6172

(See attached file: CCD0607\_VERIFY\_090122.xls)

"Phan, Tai"  
<Tai.Phan@ed.gov>

01/21/2009 06:05  
PM

"douglas.e.gevertdt@census.gov"  
<douglas.e.gevertdt@census.gov>

To

cc

Subject

FW: rural status for Falcon School  
District 49

---

From: Susan Farr [SFARR@d49.org]  
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2009 5:17 PM  
To: Phan, Tai  
Cc: Hoffman, Lee  
Subject: rural status for Falcon School District 49

Tai,

I need to verify the locale classification NCES has for Falcon School District 49 as well as the individual sites. I have attached a spread sheet listing the name, address, latitude, longitude and elevation for each site.

We are filing an appeal with the Schools and Libraries Division. They have listed % of our schools as urban. We are stating that according to NCES the sites are listed as rural. Schools and Libraries Division is requesting verification on the locale (rural, urban) for the each site. I will be submitting your email for verification. Please list on the email the coordinates and what locale each site is located in. If you have additional questions please call me on my cell (719) 491-0067.

Thank you for your help!

Susan Farr  
Executive Administrative Assistant  
Information Technology Department  
719-495-1140 office  
719-495-1145 fax  
sfarr@d49.org<mailto:sfarr@d49.org>

(See attached file: Schools addresses DMS and elevation.xlsx)

## Falcon School District 49

NCES LEAID = 0803870

Administration			CCD 2006-2007	
			Locale	Enrollment
Central Office	38°56'28.53"N 104°37'31.87"W 6909 ft	10850 E. Woodmen Rd Peyton, CO 80831 719-495-1100		
Special Services	38°56'30.11"N 104°39'47.23"W 6919 ft	7545 Mohawk Rd Colorado Springs, CO 80908 719-495-1114		
High				
Falcon	38°58'51.38"N 104°34'21.96"W 7003 ft	10255 Lambert Rd Peyton, CO 80831 719-495-5520	42 Rural-Distant	1039
Sand Creek	38°53'09.01"N 104°41'55.83"W 6544 ft	7005 N Carefree Cir Colorado Springs, CO 80922 719-495-1106	11 City-Large	2054
Vista Ridge	38°55'55.96"N 104°42'10.27"W 6822 ft	6888 Black Forest Rd Colorado Springs, CO 80923 719-494-8800		
Patriot Learning Center	38°56'02.24"N 104°36'20.90"W 6827 ft	11990 Swingline NE Rd. Peyton, CO 80831 719-495-5505		

<b>Middle</b>				
Falcon	38°58'24.16"N 104°37'15.66"W 7183 ft	9755 Towner Ave Peyton, Co 80831 719-495-5232	42 Rural-Distant	551
Horizon	38°51'42.65"N 104°42'17.91"W 6442 ft	1750 Prios Dr Colorado Spruigs, CO 80915 719-495-5210	21 Suburb-Large	691
Skyview	38°55'13.50"N 104°42'36.59"W 6807 ft	6350 Windham Peak Blvd Colorado Springs, CO 80923 719-495-5566	41 Rural-Fringe	1038
<b>Elementary</b>				
Evans	38°51'22.26"N 104°41'41.26"W 6382 ft	1675 Winnebago Rd Colorado Springs, CO 80915 719-495-5299	21 Suburb-Large	694
Falcon	38°55'36.32"N 104°36'10.26"W 6791 ft	12050 Falcon Highway Peyton, CO 80831 719-495-5272	42 Rural-Distant	417
Meridian Ranch	38°58'55.55"N 104°35'22.28"W 7107 ft	10480 Rainbow Bridge Dr Peyton, CO 80831 719-494-2909	42 Rural-Distant	647
Odyssey	38°54'21.51"N 104°42'44.39"W 6668 ft	6275 Bridlespur Ave Colorado Springs, CO 80922 719-494-8622	11 City-Large	554
Remington	38°52'41.78"N 104°42'00.15"W 6509 ft	2825 Pony Tracks Dr Colorado Springs, CO 80922 719-495-5266	11 City-Large	546
Ridgeview	38°55'17.74"N 104°41'58.42"W 6727 ft	6573 Shimmering Creek Dr Colorado Springs, CO 80923 719-494-8700	41 Rural-Fringe	748

Springs Ranch	38°53'41.72"N 104°41'50.63"W 6688 ft	4350 Centerville Dr Colorado Springs, CO 80922 719-494-8600	11 City-Large	661
Stetson	38°54'21.17"N 104°42'03.42"W 6661 ft	4910 Jedediah Smith Rd Colorado Springs, CO 80922 719-495-5252	11 City-Large	716
Woodmen Hills	38°57'06.68"N 104°35'55.58"W 6926 ft	8308 Del Rio Rd Peyton, CO 80831 719-495-5500	42 Rural-Distant	867

**Identified on CCD 2006-2007 file, but not included in list above:**

Banning Lewis Ranch Academy	Colorado Springs, CO	7094 COTTONWOOD TREE DRIVE,	41 Rural-Fringe	496
Rocky Mountain Classical Academy	Colorado Springs, CO	6556 ROUBIDEAU CREEK WAY	21 Suburb-Large	376
Pikes Peak School Expeditionary Learning	Falcon, CO	5450 MERIDIAN ROAD	42 Rural-Distant	161

Total  
12256 Enrollment

4531 LOC=11  
1761 LOC=21  
2282 LOC=41  
3682 LOC=42

## Susan Farr

---

**From:** Hoffman, Lee [Lee.Hoffman@ed.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 23, 2009 7:20 AM  
**To:** Susan Farr; Phan, Tai  
**Subject:** RE: rural status for Falcon School District 49

Ms. Farr, The CCD School Locator should serve as documentation for the locale codes of schools in Falcon District 49. The locale codes on that site are the locale codes that NCES has assigned and that we consider to be correct. Lee Hoffman

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Susan Farr [mailto:SFARR@d49.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 21, 2009 5:17 PM  
**To:** Phan, Tai  
**Cc:** Hoffman, Lee  
**Subject:** rural status for Falcon School District 49

Tai,

I need to verify the locale classification NCES has for Falcon School District 49 as well as the individual sites. I have attached a spread sheet listing the name, address, latitude, longitude and elevation for each site.

We are filing an appeal with the Schools and Libraries Division. They have listed ¾ of our schools as urban. We are stating that according to NCES the sites are listed as rural. Schools and Libraries Division is requesting verification on the locale (rural, urban) for the each site. I will be submitting your email for verification. Please list on the email the coordinates and what locale each site is located in. If you have additional questions please call me on my cell (719) 491-0067.

Thank you for your help!

*Susan Farr*  
*Executive Administrative Assistant*  
*Information Technology Department*  
*719-495-1140 office*  
*719-495-1145 fax*  
[sfarr@d49.org](mailto:sfarr@d49.org)



Universal Service Administrative Company  
Schools & Libraries Division

---

**Administrator's Decision on Appeal – Funding Year 2008-2009**

April 27, 2009

David Bond  
Falcon School District 49  
10850 East Woodmen Road  
Falcon, CO 80831

Re: Applicant Name: FALCON SCHOOL DISTRICT 49  
Billed Entity Number: 142299  
Form 471 Application Number: 627866  
Funding Request Number(s): 1733138, 1741016, 1741700, 1741904, 1743660,  
1743751, 1750550, 1750596  
Your Correspondence Dated: February 02, 2009

After thorough review and investigation of all relevant facts, the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) has made its decision in regard to your appeal of USAC's Funding Year 2008 Funding Commitment Decision Letter for the Application Number indicated above. This letter explains the basis of USAC's decision. The date of this letter begins the 60 day time period for appealing this decision to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). If your Letter of Appeal included more than one Application Number, please note that you will receive a separate letter for each application.

Funding Request Number(s): 1733138, 1741016, 1741700, 1741904, 1743660,  
1743751, 1750550, 1750596

Decision on Appeal: **Denied**

Explanation:

- During appeal review, USAC has determined that all the entities at issue are classified as Urban status. Further investigation on appeal indicated that these entities are located in El Paso County in Colorado. According to USAC's "Table of Rural Areas by State", only portions of El Paso county are considered Rural. More specifically, only three census tracts in El Paso County are considered Rural, as follows: 0038, 0039.01 and 0046. The entities listed in the appeal letter do not belong to any of the census tracts listed above as Rural and therefore are not considered Rural. USAC relies on the "Table of Rural Areas by State" and does not accept any additional/alternative documentation for validation of entities' Rural/Urban statuses. USAC only uses "Table Of Rural Areas By State"

in the SLD web site at <http://www.usac.org/sl/applicants/step05/urban-rural/> to determine Rural/Urban classification of a particular entity. You did not demonstrate during the appeal process that USAC erred in its initial decision.

- You indicated on your FCC Form 471 that your shared discount eligibility is 46% based upon census information that you provided with your appeal letter. USAC's review of your application determined that your discount eligibility percentage was not supported. USAC verified your discount eligibility percentage based on Urban classification. Since you did not demonstrate in your appeal that the classification was incorrect, USAC denies your appeal.
- FCC rules provide that the discount available to an applicant is determined by indicators of poverty and high cost. *See* 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.505(b). The level of poverty is measured by the percentage of students enrolled in a school or school district that are eligible for a free or reduced price lunch under the National School Lunch Program(NSLP), or a federally-approved alternative mechanism. Alternatively, the level of poverty is measured according to participation in Medicaid, Food Stamps, Supplementary Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8, or Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). *See* Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, 12 FCC Rcd 8776, 9045, FCC 97-157 para. 510 n.1334 (rel. May 8, 1997). The high cost determination is made pursuant to FCC rules that classify a school or library as rural or urban. *See* 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.505(b)(3). An applicant's discount rate is determined by reference to a matrix based upon the level of poverty and whether the entity is classified as rural or urban. *See* 47 C.F.R. sec. 54.505(c).

If your appeal has been approved, but funding has been reduced or denied, you may appeal these decisions to either USAC or the FCC. For appeals that have been denied in full, partially approved, dismissed, or canceled, you may file an appeal with the FCC. You should refer to CC Docket No. 02-6 on the first page of your appeal to the FCC. Your appeal must be received or postmarked within 60 days of the date on this letter. Failure to meet this requirement will result in automatic dismissal of your appeal. If you are submitting your appeal via United States Postal Service, send to: FCC, Office of the Secretary, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. Further information and options for filing an appeal directly with the FCC can be found in the "Appeals Procedure" posted in the Reference Area of the SLD section of the USAC website or by contacting the Client Service Bureau. We strongly recommend that you use the electronic filing options.

We thank you for your continued support, patience and cooperation during the appeal process.

Schools and Libraries Division  
Universal Service Administrative Company



David Bond  
Falcon School District 49  
10850 East Woodmen Road  
Falcon, CO 80831

Billed Entity Number: 142299  
Form 471 Application Number: 627866  
Form 486 Application Number: